RA 990 .C45 F6 1915

Foochow Missionary Hospital.

The annual report of Foochow Missionary Hospital

Making Peaceful Progress on Peace Street

Foochow Missionary Hospital
Bonebrake Theological Seminary
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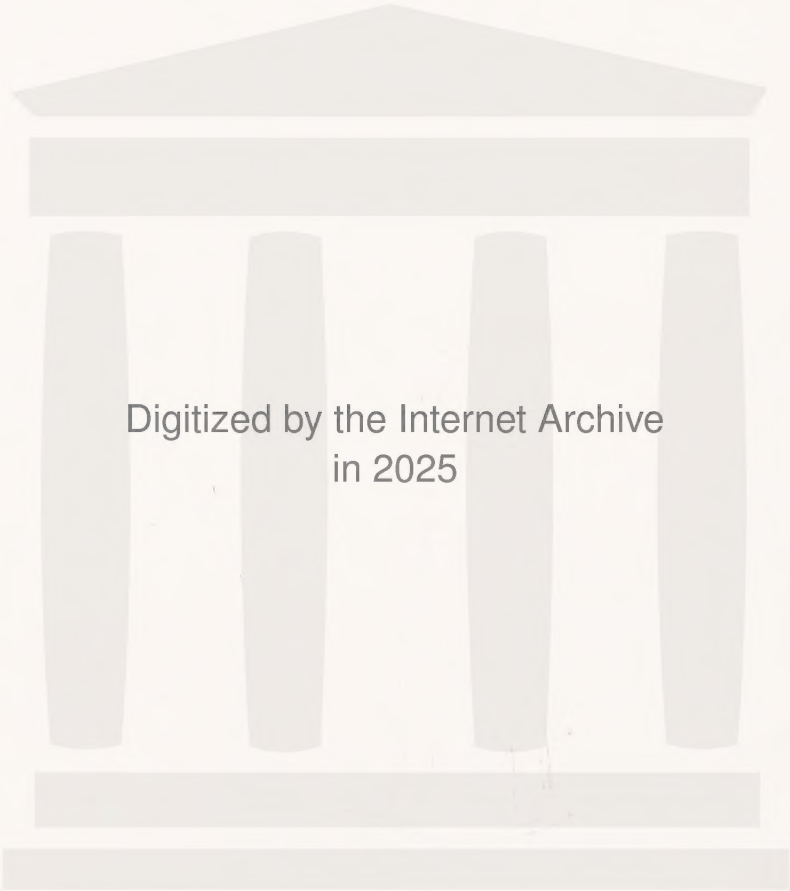
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DOCTOR KINNEAR, HOSPITAL WORKERS, AND A GROUP OF SOLDIERS, SOME OF WHOM HAVE BEEN PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Foochow Missionary Hospital

FOOCHOW, CHINA.

For the Year ending December 31, 1916

A. B. C. F. M.

Printed at the A. B. C. F. M. Press

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HOSPITAL STAFF

Hardman N. Kinnear, M. D.

Surgeon-in-charge

Mrs. Ella J. Kinnear,

Nurse and Dispenser

Harold B. Belcher,

Treasurer

Ling Guong-cieu.

Native Assistant.

Ngu Do-hie.

Evangelist.

Ngu Huai Ching.	Iek Hiong.
Diong Mi U.	Ling Cauk Ciu.
Lau Sing Hok.	Diong I Luk.

Ling I Po.

Lau Ceu Bo.	Ding Ma Ko.
Dong Siek Guang.	Sia Niong Hang.

Student Nurses.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Rev. Lewis Hodous

Rev. Willard L. Beard

Rev. Clarence A. Neff.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

FOOCHOW MISSIONARY HOSPITAL

For the Year Ending December 1916.

Established 1872.

——:o:——

It was an error in the printing that made last year's report read 1916. This is the report of the work done in the year 1916.

The end of the year 1916 gives us another opportunity to greet, through the annual report, the many friends of the work of Foochow Missionary Hospital. Writing annual reports is one way of making the years seem short. It never seems possible to accomplish all that one aims to do. But 1916 was a good year, and we are glad of the opportunity this gives us to express our pleasure at being here again. We ask no higher privilege and conceive no greater satisfaction than that of serving where most needed.

After working toward this goal over twenty years, the year 1916 was our first year in proper buildings, with adequate outfit and with no other mission burdens to carry. Every time we come into the Hospital building for a day's work, we feel like thanking you good friends, who have made it possible. It is light, pleasant, and convenient, and adapted to our ways of working. Others, who have never had to spend their best years working in native houses, medically and surgically unequipped, may not appreciate it so fully, but you may be sure that we do.

The building itself has done not a little towards making this place popular, and we have never had reason to feel that, either the building or the work done in it, was more worth while than now. You will rejoice with us too, that since January Fourteenth we have been able to be at our places in the Hospital, every day, including the summer, most of the time nearly all day, with the exception of two weeks lost by the writer when having dengue.

Our assistant Dr. Ling Guong-ciu, was given a vacation of a month at the beginning of the year, and was ill with dengue two weeks, but with these exceptions he has been constant and faithful in his work.

In the autumn, the head nurse, Mr. Ho, was released to other work, and his duties were divided between Mrs. Kinnear and the older student nurses. The latter arose to the responsibility very nicely, the work has been quite as efficiently done, and they have improved under the greater responsibility.

The work of the nurses training school has been conducted under the care of Mrs. Kinnear. The course has been lengthened from three to five years. The students need the more complete training that is made possible by the five year's course. Then too, if graduated in so short a time, they would be lost to the hospital when becoming most efficient and useful to the work. Their willingness and desire to learn have given us real pleasure.

Rev. Ngu has much of the time had more than an hundred to hear him at the morning prayer service. In the evening the evangelist and the students held prayer services in the various wards. As the attendance of outpatients has been larger than ever before, and the number of inpatients greatly increased, the evangelistic opportunities have been correspondingly great.

The increased number of inpatients coming for the treatment of so-called "Internal Diseases" has been a feature, especially during the last part of the year. Formerly the foreign

doctor was acknowledged to be skilful in "External Medicine," that is, surgical work, but it has taken much longer to convince the Chinese that we can treat internal diseases, and that we understand the "Chinese constitution" adequately. This is a step in advance. The fact is however, that like other people, they give their confidence to anyone that sincerely tries to help them, and shows a personal interest in their welfare.

The only considerable epidemic of the year was one of dengue, in the autumn. It went through the foreign families, the schools and barracks and more or less generally among the people. Its protean character never showed itself in a more pronounced way, the symptoms showing every conceivable variation from what the text books lead one to expect.

Early in October a group of soldiers, Northern men mostly, came into the hospital with dengue. Like others who have the disease, they thought themselves to be very ill. When they recovered promptly in a few days, they were discharged and seem to have carried to the barracks probably rather exaggerated ideas of our abilities. Later we were given the chance to work upon a large number of soldiers with less easily treated ills, including some bad forms of malarial infection and dysentery. Had they so chosen, they would have been treated free in the military hospital, but in order to put themselves under the care of a foreign physician, they were willing to pay room rent, and for food, much of which they did not eat, and in addition to purchase the sorts of food that they preferred from outside.

In addition to completing the full complement of beds for the Hospital we have, during the year, added many other new furnishings. Other things are needed, and we are looking forward to putting in some sort of a running water supply as soon as it is apparent what is the best thing—and the funds are ready. The burden of the heavy pay-roll which is necessary in

the present stage of the work, limits the number of new things that it is wise to get or to do in a single year. It will, however, be of interest to our readers to know that the gross receipts from Chinese sources are much larger than they have ever been before. The dispensary entrance fee for new cases was advanced from four to five cents gold, while the admission for return cases was doubled, making it two cents gold. Special cases are seen during clinic hours at twenty cents gold, while in the afternoon a fee of one dollar silver, something over fifty cents in gold now, is charged for cases seen at the hospital. The greatest financial advance has been made by charging all classes for their medicines. Even at the increased cost of drugs and freight rates, our patients are paying all that most things are worth, and only in rare instances is there any objection made. The fee for fitting glasses has been a source of income. The private rooms have been furnished and graded in price from $3.50 to $7.50 a week (Gold) and we have been pleased at the number of hospital days they have been in use, as well as with the income derived therefrom. We have made less marked progress in getting the patients to pay for operations, which have heretofore been done free. A start has been made however, and we hope for greater progress in the future.

The expense of running the work would have been much greater if we had been obliged to buy all of the medicines used during the year reported. Fortunately before we went to America, we purchased a large supply of medicines so as to leave the hospital well stocked for our successors. Returning we found the stock still in good condition in most lines, and we have been using from it all of this year with comparatively small additions.

In the years past, in addition to the hospital work there were so many other demands upon the time of the doctor in charge that we have generally refused to make visits outside.

They take so much time, and the patients are so little under our control, that it hardly seemed worth while. With our full time at the disposal of the hospital, we have changed our attitude in this matter, and the fees received make a worth-while addition to the hospital income.

In closing this annual greeting, we want to extend our most cordial thanks to those who, in spite of the many calls for help in Red Cross and other relief work in both Europe and America, have given us most generous financial help during the year, and have continued sending us fine supplies of old linen, cotton, soap, etc. We thank you too, for your cordial, friendly and inspiring letters, and for your prayers for the success of the work to which our lives have been given.

Loyally, yours in His service,
H. N. and Ella J. Kinnear.

SUMMARY

Deaths in Hospital	5
Inpatients	643
Days spent in Hospital	10,601
Equals—Evangelistic Opportunity	29 years
Average Stay	16 ½ days
Number of Beds	100
Total New Cases Seen	7,391
Treatments	45,569
Operations	1,039
Mission Appropriation in Support of the work	Nothing.

General Summary of Work Done.

Summary of New Cases Seen 1916

General Diseases	938
Aural	291
Circulatory	23
Cellulo-muscular	302
Cutaneous	1217
Digestive	852
Glandular	118
Nasal	58
Locomotory	126
Nervous	129
New Growths	90
Ocular	1835
Respiratory	407
Urino-genital	581
Accidents, Injuries	424
Total	7391

Total Treatments by Months 1916.

January	3668
February	3216
March	5059
April	5005
May	5089
June	4307
July	2508
August	2766
September	2598
October	3811
November	3712
December	3821
	45,560

Treatments given Women and Girls, Included in above	7,502
Operations previously recorded	14,519
Operations performed during 1916	1,039
Total	15,558
Total cases recorded	598,582

HIGH-LIGHTS AND SHADOWS.

The Chinese are not yet very clear as to what the stethoscope is for, but even so they have a great respect for it. Quite frequently we are asked to use it to listen to a patient's abdomen in order to diagnose a case of dyspepsia more accurately. One man asked to have the stethoscope applied to his rheumatic shoulder for the same purpose.

To cure inflamed glands of the neck, one of the college boys had been acupunctured between the thumb and forefinger of each hand. Rather distant counter-irritation!

Only three women bites to four from men this year, but the former were quite as vicious as the latter. It has been a very dry season. Our patient, a woman, had to work very hard treading the pump to irrigate her rice fields. Her fields were separated from those of a neighbor, who had no water, by a low sod dam. The neighbor had made holes in the sod dam to let the water run on her fields, but said that the holes were made by crabs. One woman, representing each side of the dam question, met to discuss the matter, with the result that our patient had two fingers badly bitten.

One attempted suicide case was that of a man with syphilitic occlusion of both pupils, and consequent blindness. He was told two years ago that he could not be made to see. The day before coming to us, he had stabbed himself with suicidal intent.

A poor little child, just over a year old, cut its foot on a shell. The foot was washed in hot water, and the second day was found blistered. Three days before coming to us, seventeen days after the injury, it was washed and bandaged in carbolated oil, "Elephant oil" as the Chinese call it. When uncovered the skin was found dead and black –carbolic gangrene—over the entire top of the foot, and after a week it sloughed away. The

child lost strength rapidly in spite of all that we were able to do for it, and one day, the young boy who brought the child, said, "The more you heal it, the worse it gets. Do you want to make a reputation or not? If you do not heal it, you must pay me back my every day two cents." When it became apparent that the child must die, the boy was told that his sister was dying and he replied with a fine scorn that the child was not his sister, only a purchased slave child. It might have had to endure a worse fate if it had survived the results of the carbolic acid burn.

The proportion of eye work has been larger than ever before, and the two hundred and eighteen cases of trachoma have demanded a larger number of treatments than any other one disease. Some of the cases have been advanced ones with badly damaged eyes resulting, but a good proportion have been caught in the early stages, and on the whole the results of treatment have been gratifying. It seems worth while to win the confidence of the Chinese in this line, for the amount of blindness here is appalling, and the number of eyes permanently injured by neglect is greater than any one, not compelled to take knowledge of the matter, would realize.

Now and again a baby is brought, its head laid in the doctor's lap, the lids gently parted, and the waiting and anxious mother told that the eyes are destroyed and that nothing can be done to restore sight. Some of the reasons given for delay seem pitifully inadequate. "Did not hear of the hospital until a friend mentioned it yesterday"—"Only recently learned of the skill of the Foreign doctor in treating eye troubles"—"Thought it was only a cold in the eyes"—"Did not have time to bring the patient"—and sometimes people who live within a few miles, even within a mile or two, excuse themselves by saying that it is so far to the hospital that they put it off. Of four cases of

this sort that came during November and December, three were girls. One of these girls was two years of age and had been neglected one and a half months. The next, three years old, had only complained a week, but both cornea had ulcerated through. The third had been having inflamed eyes five months, and vitreous flowed out as soon as one eye was touched.

Most such cases are among the very young, but not all. One man, seventy years old, had lost the sight of one eye several years ago. But when the remaining eye became inflamed, he only treated it with "Household remedies" which in China, may mean anything thinkable.

One poor woman brought her only child, a five year old boy, who was blind as the result, she said, of trouble following measles three months previously. Her reason for not coming sooner was that her husband had deserted her and she had to earn a living for the child and herself.

Fourteen cases of carbuncle came, including some very extensive ones, and some in weak, old people. We were told of one that had ceased coming, and later died, but the others made good recoveries.

Of three cases of cancrum oris, one had measles a month before it came to us. It seems to follow measles more frequently than anything else. In this case, they said the eruption was out only one day and then subsided and was followed by a cough. When this child was first seen, the left cheek, the upper alveolus, and part of the maxilla were necrosed. The people who brought the child said that if it could not live, "It was of no importance"! But one of these three cases recovered, the first one that we recall having done so. In this one the disease was limited to the upper lip, alveolus, and nasal septum. After the child is thoroughly recovered, we hope that a plastic operation will close the cleft in the external parts at least.

We have not yet cured all the itch and ulcers in China! Think we will have to ask for another year at least in which to complete the task. For these two ills lead in numbers in the skin department. One ulcer that came was covered with a red ant's nest.

One of the many cases of dyspepsia attributed his whole trouble to the fact that he had swallowed a small bivalve shell the year before, while another was kicked in the abdomen when a child.

A few cases of opium habit come each year, but do not give us great satisfaction. One man cured the first part of the year came back to be "Cured" again. He had commenced taking the drug again because he was ill. We now require a small deposit, pay in advance for a month's board, and an uninterrupted stay in the hospital for at least a month.

We usually derive a good deal of satisfaction from removing foreign bodies of various sorts, bones and slivers from the throat, beans and peanuts and the like from nose or ears, and bamboo or needles from under the skin or from the deeper tissues. Getting a slippery glass bead out of a scared child's ear, as we had to do recently, is more interesting than most games. In one of our cases, a tailor's apprentice had been punished or scolded, and for revenge had put a needle in a biscuit and given it to his employer's child. As ten days had already passed and the child had no symptoms, and the broken parts of the X-ray apparatus were not yet in evidence, we inclined to think the child possibly did not swallow the needle at all.

The predominance of acute troubles, those for which short stays in the hospital were made, was noticeable during the last half of the year. Dengue, agues, remittent fever, and dysentery, made up a large proportion of the cases during that time.

We have been seeing some beri-beri both in the out- and in-

patient departments during the whole year, but had not realized that there was any unusual number until we came to make up the tables of the diseases treated, when it was found that there had been sixty-four cases. While this does not indicate any special epidemic, it is rather an unusual number for this clinic. Many of the cases came from the different barracks in the city and elsewhere. As a general rule they were men who were housed and clothed more comfortably than a majority of our Chinese are, and it is also notable that the soldiers here live upon much better food than our poorer people do. So far as we have been able to find out, their rice is not different from that bought by the community in general, but the soldiers, coming as they do from the North, where rice is not the staple food that it is here, are not satisfied with rice. So in addition to the meat and vegetables with which they are generously served, they buy legumes, bread, cakes, fruits, and nuts in good quantities. Some of the men have been subjected to exposure while campaigning in the province, but no more so than hundreds of their comrades who did not suffer with this disease at all. We are inclined to admit the possibility that we do not yet know all that there is to be known about beri-beri.

An unusual number of cases of diphtheria were treated. One might draw the conclusion that the disease is becoming more common, but it is possible that the larger number of cases seen is due to the fact that we have a reputation for giving generous doses of the best anti-toxin obtainable, and that it usually effects good results. Certain it is that we have never had a series of such uniformly extensive membrane formation. One case that is not recorded was that of a child that was in extremis when brought to the hospital, and died as we hurried in to see it in the waiting room. The Chinese seem increasingly willing to pay for anti-toxin and there is no doubt they do ap-

preciate its value, but we have not yet been able to persuade them to pay for prophylactic doses for exposed members of the family.

With the opening of the new "Horse road" during the year, and the introduction of jinrickshas and carriages, we have to record for the first time, injuries of various sorts from being knocked down or run over by carriage wheels. Some of the old men seem to be dazed by the suddenness of the advent of the new era, but all the same, it is a pleasure to see how much some of them enjoy the pleasure of riding in the new conveyances.

A child had herpes zoster, and after the usual round of native treatment, the parents were advised to cover the child's back with strong alcohol and set it on fire. This was done with the disastrous result that might have been anticipated. When, some days later, the child was brought to us, the burned back was covered with a mixture of silk-worm excrement, rhubarb and tea oil. The child did well under proper treatment.

Amongst the curiosities met was a baby that was brought to us six hours after it was born, with a spina bifida, (Myelocystocele). The tumor was about the size of a small orange when the child was born they told us, but when seen it measured eleven and a half inches in circumference, and four and three fourths inches long. The child was perfectly formed in all other respects.

The year also brought our first case of anopthalmos. The child was twenty days old, appeared perfectly normal, but the parents said it would not open its eyes. There was no apparent retraction of the lids, but when they were separated, the palpebral openings were found very short, were not more than one quarter of an inch long, and behind them no vestige of an eye could be found on either side.

A start has been made upon a study of the intestinal parasites of the patients who come to the hospital, but as it is only

a start, no conclusions should be drawn, beyond noting that two hundred and fifty examinations have revealed but two cases of hook-worm. It is noticed too that there are vastly fewer cases of lumbricoid infection among the people who come from the north than in the Foochow people, in whom they are very common.

We have not worked out the number of cases in which general or local anaesthetics have been used in operations, as it hardly seems likely to interest the group of readers to whom this report goes. Suffice it to say that in any operation that can be done quickly, we rarely use a general anaesthetic. So long as there is even a minimum of risk in giving chloroform or ether we do not feel justified in using them except in severe operations. Local anaesthesia is used very constantly, and with great satisfaction both to surgeon and patients.

To satisfy our curiosity, we reckoned up the number of days spent in the hospital by in-patients, and were rather surprised to find the total equivalent to about twenty-nine years of time, an average of over sixteen days per patient. This is interesting as giving the measure of the evangelistic opportunity that the hospital affords. This is the index of the broadest, most intimate and most kindly contact that Christian workers have with the non-Christian community. It means much more than the mere relieving of illnesses, more even than making an occasional convert, and as the number of in-patients has been larger than ever before this year, this index of opportunity is no doubt higher than ever before.

Quotation From Chinese Newspaper.

"A Prosperous Hospital. The Foochow Missionary Hospital on Ming Gaing Seng Street has been established over thirty years. It was built by Dr. Kinnear, the regulations improved and the equipment enlarged and greatly perfected. Recently Dr. Kinnear has returned from America and has resumed his medical work * * * * * * Importance of cleanliness is emphasized. One hundred patients daily come to the clinic while there are several tens of inpatients. The success of this Hospital is immeasurable."

Love

"If you were toiling up a weary hill,
Bearing a load beyond your strength to bear,
Straining each nerve untiringly, and still
Stumbling and losing foothold here and there;
And each one passing by would do so much
As give one upward lift and go their way,
Would not the slight, reiterated touch
Of help and kindness lighten all the day?
And every day we give or we withhold
Some little thing that tells for life or death."

One friend cheers us foward thus,—

"Now 'Go to it again', that work always at your elbow, and up to your eyes, and deep in your hearts, and God bless it more than ever."

FOOCHOW MISSIONARY HOSPITAL CASH AND CHECK ACCOUNT

Dr

1916			1916		Cr.
Dec. 31.	To Medicines bought	299.98	Dec. 31.	By Balance credit	681.11
	,, Doctor and nurses	1131.16		,, Fees	
	,, Wages	114.56		Outpatient	1638.38
	,, Light and Heat	260.23		Inpatient	653.51
	,, Equipment	758.66		Special	1446.21
	,, Furnishings	20.00		,, Medicines sold	2151.47
	,, New Building	611.73		,, Glasses	1174.55
	,, Postage and printing	654.74		,, Foreign donations	1137.09
	,, Repairs	139.75		,, Interest	23.77
	,, Exchange	123.62		,, Incidentals	26.08
	,, Incidentals	789.78		,, Checks cashed	2198.60
	,, Checks cashed	2198.60			
	,, Balance on hand	3995.01			
		11380.77			11380.77

HAROLD B. BELCHER, TREAS.

The above amounts are in Foochow Currency silver which at the average exchange for the year is about half the same amount in United States gold.

Accounts audited and approved, April 1917.

W. L. BEARD

4849

FOOCHOW MISSIONARY HOSPITAL ACCOUNT WITH MISSION TREASURER.

Dr.			Cr.		
1916 Dec. 31	To Medicines bought	657.56	1916 Dec. 31.	By Balance credit	1284.94
	,, Equipment	525.49		,, Foreign donations	1856.40
	,, Glasses	407.72		,, Refunds from 1915	450.75
	,, Printing and post	81.18		,, Interest and exchange	338.38
	,, Balance on hand	2268.52			
		3930.47			3930.47

The above amounts are in United States gold hence when compared with the figures in the cash and check account should be multiplied by two. The above account was audited by the Mission Auditors in July 1916 and March 1917

HAROLD B. BUTCHER, Mission Treas.

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